

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A MEDICAID FAMILY PLANNING
WAIVER OR STATE PLAN AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, Women who reported Medicaid as their financial source for prenatal care and/or delivery had significantly higher rates of unintended pregnancy (45%) compared to those that reported Medicaid was not a source for prenatal care and/or delivery (19%)¹; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, Medicaid funded 43% of all births, and 54% of infants and newborns have Idaho Medicaid coverage²; and

WHEREAS, twenty-six states have obtained federal approval for Medicaid family planning coverage for populations not covered by their traditional Medicaid plan³; and

WHEREAS, the findings of a multi-state evaluation of state-initiated programs expanding eligibility for Medicaid-covered family planning services found that all states experienced substantial cost savings⁴; and

WHEREAS, the same study found that increasing family planning coverage has expanded the network of family planning providers and their capacity to meet the need for services while reducing unintended pregnancies⁴; and

WHEREAS, the federal Hyde Amendment, passed in 1977, bans state use of federal Medicaid dollars to pay for abortions unless the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest, or the abortion is necessary to save the life of the woman; and

WHEREAS, women and infants experience adverse outcomes as a result of unintended pregnancies⁵; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Idaho Association of District Boards of Health supports the state of Idaho applying for a Medicaid Family Planning Waiver or pursuing a Medicaid State Plan Amendment to include family planning coverage for low income individuals.

¹Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. Division of Medicaid. Bureau of Financial Operations. Office of Program Analytics.

² Pregnancy Risk Assessment Tracking System (PRATS). 2015 Annual Report.

<http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Portals/0/Health/Statistics/Prats/2015PRATSAnnualReport.pdf>

³Medicaid Family Planning Eligibility Expansion, State Policies in Brief, as of June 1, 2017, Guttmacher Institute.

⁴Sonfield, A. & Gold, R. B. (2011). *Medicaid Family Planning Expansions: Lessons Learned and Implications for the Future*. Guttmacher Institute.

⁵Brown, S. S, & Eisenberg, L. (1195). *The best intentions: unintended pregnancy and the well-being of children and families*. Washington, DC: The National Academy Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/4903>.